

### Writing Rubric • 7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> Grade —Persuasive/Expository

	1	2	3	4	5	6
<b>Focus</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>My writing is confusing.</li> <li>I did not write enough.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I did not write to the prompt.</li> <li>My topic / position is unclear or my ideas are unrelated.</li> <li>I wrote about multiple topics / positions without tying them together</li> <li>My writing is repetitious.</li> <li>I wrote a response that is not persuasive or expository (<b>off mode</b>).</li> <li>I do not have a closing.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If I <b>previewed</b>, I wrote about more or fewer points than I stated in my introduction.</li> <li>My topic / position is identified in a brief opening or at least somewhere in the paper</li> <li>I did not write enough and/or what I have is repetition.</li> <li>My writing may not maintain a topic / position (slight drift of topic).</li> <li>My closing is just a statement.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I attempted a hook/attention getter and have a thesis statement in my introductory paragraph.</li> <li>If I previewed, I wrote about only those points.</li> <li>My writing maintains topic / position throughout.</li> <li>My closing paragraph is a restatement of the introduction.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I set the purpose through an effective introduction (hook/attention getter) and may have attempted a more sophisticated strategy (use of anecdotes, quotations, etc.).</li> <li>I have a clear thesis statement.</li> <li>I clearly maintain logic throughout.</li> <li>My closing is effective, including a reworded thesis statement, and a generalization as part of the conclusion (exit sentence/clincher)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I have an effective hook/attention getter, which displays some sophistication through the use of anecdotes, quotations, definitions, personal appeals, or other effective strategies.</li> <li>I have a clear and effective thesis statement.</li> <li>I clearly maintain logic throughout.</li> <li>My closing includes a reworded thesis statement and an effective exit sentence/clincher which unifies my writing.</li> </ul>
<b>Elaboration</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>My writing includes no details, or the details I include are confusing.</li> <li>I did not write enough.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Few or no main points are supported or I used a list of details.</li> <li>I wrote general details, or I repeated information.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Some of the main points in my paper are developed by specific detail.</li> <li>Most details lack depth (second level elaboration).</li> <li>My word choice is simplistic or repetitious.</li> <li>My voice is not appropriate for topic, purpose, and audience.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Most of my main points are developed with specific details (second level elaboration).</li> <li>My main points are supported, but not balanced.</li> <li>I used some interesting words and/or phrases.</li> <li>My voice is present, but inconsistent.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All major points are developed by specific detail but support may not be even or balanced.</li> <li>I developed some of my support.</li> <li>I used interesting words and/or phrases to add detail and support.</li> <li>My voice may be appropriate for topic, purpose, and audience.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All of my main points are developed in depth and are balanced.</li> <li>I extensively developed my support through multiple strategies (i.e., explanation, evidence, and example).</li> <li>I used interesting words and/or phrases throughout.</li> <li>My voice is appropriate for topic, purpose, and audience.</li> </ul>

<b>Organization</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>My writing is confusing and there is little or no evidence of a plan.</li> <li>I did not write enough.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>My writing has few <b>appropriate paragraphs</b>.</li> <li>My writing does not flow from one idea to the next.</li> <li>There is little purposeful ordering of my sentences.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I used some <b>appropriate paragraphing</b> but structure does not have a clear introduction, body, and closing.</li> <li>I used transitions in my paragraphs that confuse my readers or are repetitive.</li> <li>There may be problems with the ordering of my sentences and/or my details do not fit my topic sentences.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Paragraphing is appropriate with an introduction, body, and closing.</li> <li>Most points are logically presented.</li> <li>Most of my writing flows from one idea to the next.</li> <li>Most of my paragraphs have topic sentences.</li> <li>I tied my sentences and paragraphs together using transitions that are appropriate, simplistic yet repetitive.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I used <b>appropriate paragraphing</b> and all points are logically presented.</li> <li>My paper has a clear introduction, body, and conclusion; my writing has an orderly flow of ideas.</li> <li>All of my paragraphs have topic sentences, and some paragraphs have closing sentences.</li> <li>I varied my sentence structure (length, style, or type) and word choice.</li> <li>I tied my sentences and paragraphs together in interesting ways, using writing devices such as parallel <b>structure</b>, pronouns, and transition words.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I used <b>appropriate paragraphing</b> and all points are logically presented and interrelated.</li> <li>My paper has a clear introduction, body, and closing; my writing flows easily from one idea to the next, using transitional sentences.</li> <li>All of my paragraphs have topic and concluding sentences.</li> <li>I varied my sentence structure and word choice (length, style, and type).</li> <li>I tied my sentences and paragraphs together in interesting ways, using writing devices such as <b>parallel structure</b>, pronouns, and transitions to make my paper flow (<b>coherence and cohesion</b>).</li> </ul>
<b>Integration**</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>My writing is confusing.</li> <li>I did not fulfill the assignment.</li> <li>I did not write enough.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I am beginning to use the features of writing.</li> <li>My paper is confusing.</li> <li>I did not write a persuasive or expository paper (off mode).</li> <li>I did not write to the prompt.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>My paper is partially developed for my grade level.</li> <li>My readers may need to figure out what I am writing about because at least one of the features is not <u>complete</u>.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>My paper is simple, yet clear and appropriate from my grade level.</li> <li>I included the <u>essentials</u> but nothing more.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I have a developed paper for my grade level.</li> <li>I have a clear and developed focus.</li> <li>I included specific details.</li> <li>Some parts of my paper are better than others.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I have a fully developed paper for my grade level.</li> <li>I have a clear and developed focus.</li> <li>I included balanced, specific details.</li> <li>My sentences and paragraphs fit smoothly together.</li> </ul>
**The integration score is double-weighted in the final total writing score (ex. A score of 3 is added as 6 in the student score).						
<b>Conventions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The number of errors in my paper interferes with the reader's understanding.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I consistently made the same mistakes with grammar, punctuation, capitalization, or spelling, but the mistakes do not interfere with the reader's understanding.</li> <li>I made an attempt to vary sentence structure.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I used correct grammar, punctuation, capitalization, and spelling but may have made minor mistakes.</li> <li>I used a variety of sentence structures.</li> </ul>			